Number 49

Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

October 2011

# Anza Exhibits reach new audiences in Mexico and U.S.

Steven Ross

A duplicate set of temporary exhibits about the Anza Trail is connecting with new audiences in Mexico and the United States. The exhibits present the story of the Anza expedition and the challenges faced by its members. The timeless themes of emigration, opportunity, diversity, hope, and faith resonate with audiences on both sides of the border. The exhibits are identical, except that the one designed for Mexico is entirely in Spanish, while the exhibit touring the United States is bilingual. The project is funded by the National Park Service and was designed by the Environmental Education Exchange, a nonprofit organization based in Tucson, Arizona.

The exhibit made its Mexican debut at the Cultural Center IMFOCULTA, in Nogales, Sonora, where it will be on display through December 2011. An opening reception was held on August 18th and was attended by officials from both sides of the border.

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Ribbon Cutting at the Nogales, Sonora, MX exhibit

The bilingual exhibit traveling the United States made its debut at the Santa Barbara Presidio for the Anza Days events in May. In July, the exhibit moved to the Main Library in Fremont, California, where it was on display until mid-September. On July 25th the Washington Township Historical Society hosted an opening reception featuring a presentation about the trail by Steven Ross, NPS Outdoor Recreation Planner. On September 6, NPS Interpretive Ranger Fatima Colindres also presented an Anza-oriented children's program at the library. Starting in October, the bilingual exhibit will be on display at the Nogales, Arizona, close to its Mexican twin.

Watch a clip about the exhibit at www.tinyurl.com/anza

## Pasados del Presidio

Lisa Hillstrom

This year's Pasados del Presidio commemoration began with "Around the Campfire with Anza" on Thursday evening June 23 at 7pm at the Rob Hill Campground. "Juan Bautista de Anza" and friends took visitors on a special journey to Alta California. This new program included living history, stories, and songs around the fire.

On the sunny afternoon of Friday June 24th, hundreds of kids were greeted by Juanito the donkey to see history come to life and be part of the 12th annual Pasados del Presidio event in the Presidio. The annual event commemorated the early history of California including the arrival of the Anza party in 1776 with music, dance, lore, and lots of hands-on fun for kids.

People from the past came to life... there was *Juan Bautista de Anza* in his colonial dress uniform, inspecting the troops, *Juana Briones* cooking in her outdoor kitchen, sharing some of her favorite recipes with kids and teaching them how to grind corn with her metate.

This year's highlights included tasting tortillas,

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#### Noticias de Anza Sharing Anza Trail News & History

Noticias de Anza is a free quarterly publication of the National Park Service. Unless otherwise noted, all articles and images are in the public domain and may be used by any interested party. Articles and photographs from the public are encouraged. E-mail submissions through the "Contact us" link on www.nps.gov/juba.

#### **Deadlines**

December 1 for January issue
March 1 for April issue
June 1 for July issue
September 1 for October issue

helping archaeologists unearth buried treasures, adobe brick making with Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, making rope, butter & baskets with Fort Ross, dancing with the Calicanto Singers (some of the musicians are descendants of the original Anza party), storytelling with Ohlone descendants Linda Yamane and Donna Tuggle, dressing up as Spanish colonial soldiers from the 1700s, and using an old kick wheel to make pottery.

For the first time in the event's history, the early California Russian history came to life. State park neighbors from Fort Ross State Park in Mendocino County brought folk singers, dancers and Russian inspired activities to the stage.

Closing the event Friday evening at the Golden Gate Club, the lively and popular concert, *Evening Fandango* by the renowned Coro de Hispano de San Francisco directed by Juan Pedro Gaffney R., celebrated the songs and dances of early California. This year's guest artist was the Mexican-American roots band, Los Cenzontles.

Special thanks to Rick Collins, Bill Islas, and Gilbert Islas from the Tubac Presidio for re-enacting Spanish soldiers.

"Mark your calendars for next year" says event producer Lisa Hillstrom of the Presidio Trust, "Fort Ross is celebrating its bicentennial and will have even more fun to offer at Pasados on Friday June 29, 2012."



## Developing the "Missing Link" Along the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

Annie McVay

There are vast numbers of fascinating stories along the Anza Trail. While you may have a specific story relative to a section of the trail closest to your location or heart, it is hard to argue that crossing the Yuma desert and the Colorado River were among the expedition's greatest challenges. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Yuma Field Office (YFO) is working to develop this historic corridor into opportunities for both avid historians and recreational users of all types.

The BLM is working with Arizona State University to evaluate the feasibility of a recreational corridor in Arizona. The first phase of the study covers the Yuma Field Office territory from roughly Sears Point (described below) to the City of Yuma. This represents roughly 120 miles of the route. While the goal of developing a contiguous recreation trail remains, the current focus is on the trail segments that are the most recreationally desirable and those with the greatest value for historical interpretation. Some of these high-value areas include:

• Colorado & Gila River Confluence Water Trail – The first and only navigable river experience along the trail. The story of the crossing of the Colorado with assistance from the Yuma (Quechan) Indians can be interpreted by kayakers or other boaters enjoying the experience on a gentler river.



River Trail Users



Artist Rendition of Crossing the Colorado River

- The North Gila Mountains This section along the historic corridor is closest to Yuma and offers the unique beauty of Yuma's desert mountains. A trail close to Yuma will serve as a nature-based recreational amenity to the town as well as an introduction to the Anza story.
- Sears Point A prominent area of black mesas along the Gila River, where for thousands of years, Native Americans and historic peoples left hundreds of spectacular pictographs etched in the stone.

Planning this 'missing link' of the Anza Trail is generating a lot of attention and support , but keep in mind, this planning process is the first phase of a long process that will require years of effort.

The Anza community can help support this effort by staying aware of the progress, commenting on draft plans in the review process, and eventually helping to build the trail or interpretation facilities.



Visitors in Period Costumes with Ranger Diane

## "Early Days" in San Juan Bautista, CA

Diane Barr

As I have often explained, "The town and State Park at San Juan Bautista were named for St. John the Baptist. Juan Bautista de Anza was a whole other person." On June 25th and 26th it was a pleasure to give the San Juan Bautista State Historic Park's visitors a glimpse of the other Juan Bautista's story. With six male and six female children sized trail costumes, adult and child sized hats, shields, cueras, rebozos, and maps and brochures, visitors learned about the colonists' travels. Local volunteers, retired Pinnacles National Park Service Superintendent, Jim Sleznik, trail "boss" Manuel Solis, and I met 104 guests on Saturday. We were joined by Anza Trail Interpretive Specialist Rick Smith on Sunday when we had 351 visitors. Early Days in San Juan Bautista, CA, celebrates the founding of the San Juan Bautista Mission, June 24, 1797. With the knowledge of the 1776 Anza expedition's trek through the area, another layer of history was revealed.

### Fandago at Bernal Ranch

Jonathan Hernandez

On Saturday August, 13th, 2011, a phenomenal evening Fandango event lead by the County of Santa Clara and the Bernal family was held at the Santa Teresa County Park's Historic Bernal Ranch. Celebrating the cultural significance of this fandango, the Anza Trail staff dressed children in "Soldado" uniforms and women's period attire in order for them to understand what it was to be on the Anza Expedition.

In addition, one of the Anza Trail partners, Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, offered the children lessons in corn husk doll making. Over thirty adults and children took part. Several other activities were also being offered around the event, as children where dancing, there were others making clay pots, while others were making Muwekma Ohlone clapper sticks. The evening included a blessing in the Ohlone dialect, with Spanish and English translations.

Exhibitors at the Fandango





### San Francisco Presidio

Steven Ross

OVERVIEW: The Anza Trail in the San Francisco Presidio is part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The route passes through a surprising array of natural and cultural sites in this urban oasis, including historic military facilities, spectacular coastal viewpoints, restored landscapes and the Golden Gate Bridge. On March 27-28, 1776 Anza and a small group of soldiers camped at Mountain Lake while they scouted sites for the future presidio and mission. An interpretive sign and plaque mark the historic campsite.

**TRAILHEAD DIRECTIONS:** On the south side of the Presidio, start at Mountain Lake Park near Funston Avenue and Lake Street. Street parking is available in the neighborhood. Parking is also available at the north end of the trail.

ROUTE: From the corner of Funston & Lake, follow the trail around the lake in a counterclockwise direction to the Park Presidio Blvd. underpass. The trail continues around the Public Health Services Hospital (now housing) and connects to Wedemeyer St./Battery Chaufield Rd. The trail crosses Washington Boulevard and parallels the road around Rob Hill Campground, where it joins up with the Bay Area Ridge Trail. The trail crosses Washington Blvd. between Batteries Dynamite and Godfrey and follows the ridge of the coastal bluffs to the Golden Gate Bridge.

TRAIL CONDITIONS/HAZARDS: This trail segment has a variety of surfaces and conditions, including paved sidewalk and natural surface trails. Some segments of the trail are newly constructed, while others are awaiting improvement.

**Errata Notice:** The last issue of Noticias contained an error in the Anza Recreation Trail article. The southerly end of the trail segment described in the article is located in Crossroads Park, not Silverbell Park. Silverbell Park is located about six miles further south along the trail.



Length: 2.7 miles (one way)
Facilities: Parking, water, restrooms

For more info visit

www.presidio.gov/experiences/trails

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS: The Presidio is a dynamic urban parkland that allows city dwellers to experience a sense of nature in their backyard. The park hosts a diverse array of special events and exhibitions. In June each year NPS hosts the annual Pasados del Presidio event which celebrates the founding of San Francisco by Anza colonists. If you have children with you, be sure to pick up or download a copy of the *Kids on Trails* activity guide, which features a child on the Anza Expedition.

www.presidio.gov/kids/trails/





Nancy Dupont strides behind the Amigos de Anza parade banner

## Amigos de Anza Historical Riders & Arabian Drill Team 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade

Anne Wheeler

The Amigos de Anza returned to a prominent position in the Clayton, CA 4th of July parade. The late George Cardinet, a Clayton resident, would have been proud of the 2 banner carriers, 14 riders on horseback, 5 out-walkers, 2 photographers and a trailing "pooper scooper", who were easily the most colorful and dramatic entry in the parade.

The unit was led by historical riders: Pontaleon Vasquez as Juan Bautista de Anza, David Gordon as Lt. Moraga, Stu Christophersen as a soldado, and Diana Brucha as a woman settler.

The color guard consisted of the four flag bearing Amigos de Anza Arabian Drill Team riders: Alicia Benson, Rachel Hannigan, Kana Sumiyoshi and Kristen Wheeler.

There were new youth riders and banner carriers dressed in curera or capes as soldados: Alma Cadwalader, Arielle Goodfriend, Catie Heinzman, Cecily Sotomayor, Hunter Caldwell and Mikayla Hudson. Before the parade they were very nervous,

The Amigos de Anza returned to a prominent but afterward proud and looking forward to ride in the Clayton, CA 4th of July parade. The late with the Amigos again.

Most all the riders started at Castle Rock Arabians Equestrian Center at the base of Mt. Diablo on July 2nd on a four day Explorer Ride. The temperatures soared on July 2nd and 3rd.

Pre-dawn on July 4th, though exhausted, the Amigos de Anza youth explorers headed down the mountain, arriving at the parade staging area to change horse tack and don Amigos parade attire. Nancy Dupont & Lucia Benson hauled in four extra horses.

After the parade and lunch, nine of the ten explorers headed back up the trail on Mt. Diablo. Parents and support gathered with the Amigos Explorers for a 4th of July picnic. The Amigos watched fireworks all around the Bay Area from their mountain campsite—knowing in the morning they would be packing up and riding the hot, dusty trail for six hours back to Castle Rock Arabians—much like those on the Anza Expedition.



## Anza Trail Foundation Board Meets in Phoenix

Beverly Lane

From July 27-29, 2011, the Anza Trail Foundation Board met in Phoenix to plan for the future. This workshop was facilitated by Nancy Grace and Patricia Lewis of the ASU Lodestar Center for Philanthropy & Nonprofit Innovation. It was underwritten by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and attended by both BLM and National Park Service staff.

Support for all aspects of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail is the underlying goal of the Foundation, but deciding just how to provide this support clearly needs more attention. This trail in Arizona and California stretches over 1200 miles and much needs to be accomplished in education about and development of the trail. A major project the Board will address is an overhaul and update of the Web de Anza, the web-based resource for scholars and the general public that began in the 1990s.

After the workshop, an ad hoc Board committee worked with NPS staff Cate Bradley on the Anza Trail Foundation mission and vision. After some discussion, the ATF Board adopted these new mission and vision statements on August 24, 2011:

Mission: The Anza Trail Foundation raises visibility and promotes knowledge of the epic eighteenth century expeditions of Juan Bautista de Anza and preserves the Anza National Historic Trail through collaboration and partnering with organizations and individuals.

Vision: Future generations will enjoy and preserve the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail and celebrate the inspiring historic accomplishments of the Anza expeditions and the compelling multicultural, but largely untold, stories of Spanish colonial exploration and settlement.

There are currently seven Board members and more are needed from all areas of the National Historic Trail. Please contact us through the ATF web site if you are interested in serving on the Board.

www.AnzaTrailFoundation.com

### World Premiere of Anza Expedition Film

**Shaw Kinsley** 

The National Park Service is proud to partner with the Tubac Presidio for the world premiere viewing of the newest film that tells the story of the Anza Expedition of 1775-1776. The history of the Anza Expedition connects to timeless themes such as emigration, opportunity, diversity, hope, and faith.

This film was made for the National Park Service by the Environmental Education Exchange. It stars the late Don Garate in the role of Juan Bautista de Anza, a role Don perfected over 25 years in his work for the National Park Service at Tumacacori National Historic Park. He has perfectly captured the legacy of Anza for us all to enjoy today.

The premiere will be held on Saturday, November 12th from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Tubac Presidio State Historic Park in Tubac, Arizona. In addition to the 18 minute film, living history volunteers in period attire will demonstrate frontier life and docents will offer tours of the Presidio.

Wine and light refreshments will be served. Tickets are \$25. All proceeds will benefit the "Save the Presidio" effort to keep Arizona's first state park open for the public.

Reservations & Info call 520-398-2252 or email info@ths-tubac.org



## Juan Bautista Rides!

**Rick Collins** 

The passing of Park Ranger Don Garate left a chasm in the storytelling of Anza. It was important to Don to keep the image of the Expedition leader in the eyes of the public. Like Yginio Aquirre, the first Anza, Don Garate carved his own iconic style in the portrayal of the famous expedition leader. Now, a new Anza has stepped forward.

William Islas is an appropriate choice to assume the role. Bill can trace his ancestry to the original Expedition and Anza. Bill's 6th generation great grandfather, José Joaquin Islas, commander of the Horcasitas militia, dispatched five militiamen to help on the trip to San Francisco. A great uncle of Bill's married Anza's niece, Ana Maria. Bill even has ties to Tumacacori, having a grandmother born in the little community.

Bill, an engineer at Raytheon, has a strong interest in his culture and his family history. Bill has a son and three daughters. With the support of wife Dana, Bill has been able to assume the role of the famous Expedition leader, participating in Trail events. It is important to Bill that Anza's story continue to be told and that the public come to recognize the Trail for its importance in American history.

« William Islas as Anza



## Renewable Energy Threats to Anza Trail

Steven Ross

The Anza Trail continues to be threatened by renewable energy projects in the California and Arizona deserts. NPS is currently reviewing three renewable energy projects with significant potential to have detrimental impacts to the Anza Trail. Anza trail supporters are encouraged to review these projects and provide comments to the reviewing agencies at the appropriate times during the environmental review process. These projects are outlined below:

#### **Imperial Valley Solar Project**

Imperial County, CA

Anza trail supporters may recall the Imperial Valley Solar Project that was approved by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the California Energy Commission in October 2010 despite its location on the Anza Trail historic corridor adjacent to the recreation trail. Subsequent to that approval, the project was purchased by a new energy developer, AES Solar Power. In June 2011 the new owner submitted a Plan of Development (POD) for the site using photovoltaic (PV) energy generation. The change in energy technology has resulted in rescinding the original approval, though the right of way grant for solar energy development remains with the property. The new POD has reduced the project size to 4,655 acres, and it is expected that PV panel technology would lessen the project's potential impacts on the Anza Trail by having fewer noise and visual impacts that the previous Sterling Dish engine technology. NPS will work with the BLM to stay apprised of the status of the new application for development. Project Information: www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/nepa/ stirling.html



#### Ocotillo Express Wind Energy Project

Imperial County, CA

The Ocotillo Express wind energy project is proposed to occupy 12,436 acres of land at the base of the Jacumba Mountains. Approximately 158 wind turbines, each 448 feet tall (including rotors), would generate approximately 474 megawatts (MW) of electrical power. This project site is located north and west of the town of Ocotillo, CA and south and east of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Because the project is approximately 5 miles west of the Anza Trail, it has the potential to substantially alter views and change the visitor's experience of the rugged desert landscape. NPS is currently reviewing the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for this project. The DEIS is currently available for public review and comment through October 11, 2011. Project Information: www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/nepa/ ocotillo\_express\_wind.html

#### Hyder Valley Solar Project

Maricopa County, AZ

The Hyder Valley Solar Project is located on 2,750 acres of BLM-managed land north of the Gila River, approximately one mile north of the Anza Trail historic corridor, between campsites 30 and 31. The project would employ parabolic trough solar collectors, a form of concentrated solar thermal technology, to generate approximately 325 MW of electricity. The project site is in an isolated area with little public visitation. The undeveloped character provides visitors with a sense of the landscape that the Anza Expedition traversed. The DEIS is expected to be available for public review in August 2012. Project Information: www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/solar/hyder.html



Anza Trail e-News is designed to connect across the miles with updates letting you know about activities, plans and progress of the Anza Trail on a monthly basis.

#### On the e-News site you will find:

- Special events throughout the year
- Volunteer and partnership opportunities
- Links to partners and friends

In addition, this exciting communication tool is a new way to send the Anza Historic Trail's quarterly newsletter, Noticias, to all our subscribers. Help us "green the trail" but cutting down on paper copies and get your Noticias via e-News!

Anza Trail e-News is produced monthly by the National Park Service with contributions from partners along the trail. We are always looking for trail news to share across the miles.

Please send us yours!



### Attention Trail Planners-Anza Trail GIS Group Forming!

Steven Ross

Are you interested in helping NPS staff map and plan the Anza recreation trail? NPS Outdoor Recreation Planner Steven Ross is forming a group of Anza Trail partners to assist with testing a web-based Geographic Information System (GIS) for the Anza Trail that will make it much easier for the public to find and enjoy sections of the Anza recreation trail. The GIS will also identify other Anza Trail features, such as the historic route and campsites, interpretive panels, etc.

A key component of the system, called MapCollaborator, is intended to facilitate trail planning efforts with our partners, and speed up the process of mapping and certifying segments of the Anza Trail. Ideally the GIS Group will include people with variety of backgrounds (i.e. dedicated trail planners, volunteers, and agency staff) who have a common interest in planning the Anza Trail. Time commitment? About 1 hour per month. Interested? Contact Steve (steven\_ross@nps.gov). Learn more about MapCollaborator at www.mapsportal.org/collaborate

## Anza Trail welcomes Newest Employee!

Rick Smith

Al Watson has joined the Anza team! A Bostonian, now a long-time resident of Arizona, Al will be a seasonal ranger in Tucson, promoting and interpreting the Anza Trail starting on October 11th.

Mesa Verde, Dinosaur, Yellowstone, and the Carl Sandburg Home have called upon Al's skills over the past years. His wife, Wendy, is also an interpretive ranger.

A former Marine, Al has a master's degree in education and educational administration. He has worked in our public schools, and has extensive Department of State overseas teaching and administrative experience with schools in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and China. This multicultural perspective will be a real asset when interacting with our diverse visitors.



#### **October**

10/8 - 10/9 Living History Days at the Tucson Presidio! The Kickoff Festival

133 W. Washington, Tucson, AZ, 10am - 3pm. Sample Spanish Colonial food, listen to stories of old Tucson, and learn period crafts. Drill with the soldiers!

10/9 Sunset Fandango at Las Lagunas de Anza Wetlands

*Nogales, AZ, 4pm - 8pm.* Fundraiser for Las Lagunas de Anza featuring tours of the wetlands, Anza re-enactors, demonstrations, dinner and more.

10/15 **Women and Children on the Anza Trail** (peraltahacienda.org)

Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, Oakland CA, 6pm - 7:30pm. Peter Gough, Prof. of History at Univ. of Las Vegas, NV, will share the untold stories women and children who traveled North from New Spain to settle California.

10/15 - 10/16 Living History Days - Anza Slept (near) Here!

*Tucson Presidio, 133 W. Washington, Tucson, AZ, 10am - 3pm.* Celebrate the Juan Bautista de Anza Trail during the month of October. Spanish Colonial food, stories of old Tucson, and period crafts. Drill with the soldiers!

10/22 **History in Motion** (anzatrial.com)

*Tubac and Tumacacori, AZ, 10am.* Enjoy traditional Mass at the Tumacacori Mission, then the Anza Riders embark on their journey from the mission to the Tubac Presidio. OR enjoy the kickoff events in Tubac, AZ.

10/29 Marana Fall Festival (anzatrial.com)

Annual festival celebrating the anniversary of Juan Bautista de Anza's journey through modern-day Marana, AZ.

#### **November**

11/12 **World Premiere of Anza Trail Film** (info@ths-tubac.org, 520-398-2252)

Tubac Presidio State Historic Park, 4pm – 6pm. In addition to the 18min film showing, living history volunteers will demonstrate frontier life and docents will offer tours of the Presidio. Call or email for reservations and info.

11/19 **"Take a Hike" to End Polio Now!** (anzatrial.com, 520-841-6944)

Tubac Rotary and the Anza Trail Coalition of AZ will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual hike along the Anza Trail to eradicate polio worldwide. Call or find us online for info and tickets!

\*\* Announce your event here! Contact us at www.nps.gov/juba \*\*

#### Noticias de Anza

Quarterly Newsletter of Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

One of thirty National Trails

A Millennium Trail

#### **National Park Service**

333 Bush Street Suite 500 San Francisco, CA 94104



Find this newsletter online! www.nps.gov/juba/parknews

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

## Anza Waysides Dedicated in the East Bay

Steven Ross

On August 26, 2011, East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) and National Park Service Officials met at the Contra Loma Regional Park in Antioch, California to celebrate the completion of the EBRPD Anza Trail interpretation project. The project, partially funded through the NPS Challenge Cost Share Program, resulted in the installation of 14 interpretive wayside panels at 10 different parks in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The EBRPD also prepared an Anza Expedition brochure which has been distributed to the park sites. Speakers at the event included Beverly Lane, EBRPD Board President and Anza Trail Foundation member, Tom Torlakson, CA State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Steven Ross, NPS Outdoor Recreation Planner. Also present were EBRPD Chief of Interpretation, Rick Palmer, and EBRPD Board Member Whitney Dotson.

#### **View From the Trail**





Ribbon cutting for new exhibits

To see the brochure visit: www.nps.gov/juba/upload/Anza-Brochure-3-21small.pdf